

A STUDY ON ECONOMIC HEALTH OF TRANSGENDER COMMUNITY IN INDIA

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ABSTRACT: *Transgender community is most marginalized and vulnerable community in the India as well as in the world. India's transgender community has a long history as long as our civilization. Indian constitution recognizes transgender as gender but till the date they are struggling for their identity, they are not accepted by the society. The main purpose of this study is to investigate the problems faced by transgender community by various ways such as in the field of education, employment, political pressure, and various other serious issues. The study is a mere attempt to analyses the socio-economic conditions and feelings of transgender.*

KEYWORDS: Transgender, Economic Health, Exclusion, Facilities, Problems and Issues

INTRODUCTION:

Transgender are subjected to social exclusion, discrimination, lack of education facilities, lack of medical facilities, and lack of job opportunities. Generally they lived in separate community called 'Hijrahood'. However, those who do not get into the culture of 'Hijrahood' and gain entry in mainstream jobs face another battle in itself in contemporary circumstances. According to census 2011, the total population of transgender is 4.88 Lakhs in India, and the majority of transgender people have enrolled themselves in begging and paid sex for their livelihood. The National Institute of Social Defense has provided Rs 1500 to around 4500 transgender people from different states, which is commendable but is no less than a drop in the ocean as they are strength of 4.88 lakhs. Social isolation, lack of healthcare support system, discrimination, and absence of daily income has left the transgender community is distressed in India. , we are also witnessing several issues faced by the community of transgender people due to their lost livelihood opportunities.

They are not socially privileged to operate within the online world as they are predominantly dependent on social interactions and functions such as weddings or baby showers. Henceforth, the restrictions on movement during the Covid-19 lockdown have multiplied the struggles and challenges faced by the transgender community. Transgender is mentioned in in Kama sutra, Ramayana, Mahabharata and so on. In shorts, transgender is part of society from the beginning but we didn't accept them as part of family and society in modern period. Transgender is most vulnerable and marginalized part of society.

The roles and the behaviours of Hijras to perceived themselves as distinctly male and female may varies depending upon the individual's preferences however the identification of Hijras still remain doubtful until 2011,because the Indian census and Indian election commission classified them as 'others' But

after a long struggle, in 2014 the Indian supreme court under the justice.K.S. Radhakrishnan and A.K.Sikri bench has passed a resolution to recognise them third gender category On 15 April 2014, Supreme Court of India declared transgender people as a socially and economically backward class entitled to reservations in Education and Job, and also directed union and state governments to frame welfare schemes for them.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:

- To study the economic conditions of transgender community.
- To study the socio-economic problems faced by the transgender in day to day life.
- To study the source of income and expenditure pattern among the Transgender.
- Educational challenges of Transgender in India.

ECONOMIC HEALTH OF TRANSGENDER COMMUNITY:

Transgender community has been always faced discrimination in the society. Often people used to consider their name as abusive words. Even they are deprived of the basic rights which are given to the citizens of India. They have been subjected to discrimination, suppressed and ignored. But there was a turning point when this community got recognition as a 'third gender'. There was a common story among the people of the transgender community that if they start growing as male i.e. the gender, they have at their birth then they look different from the people of the same sex and if they start growing like the female counterpart as their characteristics looks like them they become the victim of sexual harassment, molestation and trafficking. Following research paper analysis shows the worse condition of transgender community not only in some states but also in overall Indian society.

Sr. No	Researcher	Title of Research Paper	Methodology	Area of Research	Key Finding
01	Anitha Chettiar	Problems Faced by Hijras (Male to Female Transgenders) in Mumbai with Reference to Their Health and Harassment by the Police	Primary data collected through Interviews	Mumbai and Thane, Maharashtra	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 87.5% transgender suffered harassment by the both railway and traffic police particularly for begging and soliciting clients for sex work. 2. Some hijra have been gang raped by the police in the first class compartments of the local trains in Mumbai. 3. They get disrespectful and inhuman treatment not only from police but also at the hands of the doctors and nurses in the government hospitals.
02	Konduru Delliswararao	Socio-Cultural Exclusion and Inclusion of Transgenders in India	Mixed method research of the study (observation+Interviews +Secondary Data)	India	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Even after a long struggle till today transgender community undergoes numerous problem like social and cultural barriers, caused they live in frustration and humiliation throughout their life. 2. India is a patriarchal society; it is definitely hard to accept the gender variants. Transgender is considered as curse and taboo in cultural norms. 3. Due to favorable schemes and policies for trans- gender community helps to boost their social status in some sectors like film industry, corporate sector, private and IT sector and some in government jobs.
03	N.Arunagiri C.Suganya Dr Jeya Prbaha	Socioeconomic Status of Transgenders (Hijras) In Chennai District (Tamil Nadu, India)	-	Tamil Nadu	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 80% of the transgender are not aware the schemes and facilities provided by the government for them. 2. 90% transgender stated that they are forced to leave the house once their parents came to know about their gender problems. 3. More than 80% transgender accept that they involve in begging and sex-related work for their day to day living expenses. 4. Many transgender felt that general public is not ready to accept them as the third gender and often reject them if they ask job for any other help form the common public. 5. Majority of the transgender feels that they are viewed as a curse and sexual object in the society and they are often treated badly among the common public.
04	Gnana Sanga	Changing Trends in	Structured	Chennai,	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 72.7% of transgender people have Aadhar card because the government had made it a

	Mithra S, Vijayalakshmi V.	Socio-Economic Conditions of Transgender in Chennai City	questionnaire applying survey method Snowball sampling technique	Tamil Nadu	<p>mandatory document.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 56.4% of transgender are in the age group of 20-30, it shows that respondents have gained confidence to reveal themselves as transgender in youth stage. 80% of respondents have their family support it shows that transgender people are not completely stigmatized from the family level. 11% of respondents said that social status becomes the major factor for not having their family support. 98.2% of respondents said that they did not have any self help group formation and the government does not provide any funds to start small scale business. 87.27% transgender does not get free government seats in college. The reason identified is that they did not complete their secondary education or they have less awareness about the scheme.
05	Dr. K. Leelavathy	Socio-Economic Problems of Transgender in Workplace	-	-	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Most of the transgender face a lot of stigma and discrimination in schools. Lack of adequate education, skill and lack of employment opportunities, they are forced into begging and sex work. Extend financial support for Community Based Organizations run by transgender communities. Support of civil society organization to advocate for their cause and efforts like advocate for land/shelter, creation of separate public toilets, hospital wards, recognition of their right to vote as citizens, reservation of seats in elections, etc.
06	N.Gayathri, Dr.P. Karthikeyan	Inclusion and Exclusion of Third Genders – Social Hinderance in India	study is done through collection of various in-depth interviews	India	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Transgender in India have virtually no safe spaces, not even in their families. Most transgender belonged to lower middle-class background, which makes them vulnerable to harassment by the police. Some actions need to be taken on a long-term basis changing the negative attitude of the general public and increasing accurate knowledge about Hijra communities. People need to understand and accept that humans are diverse. The required changes need to be reflected in policies and laws; attitude of the government, general public and health care providers.
07	Dr. Rajkumar	Education of Transgenders in India: Status and Challenges	Secondary data	India	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Each being in this Universe is indeed unique, and an integral part of Nature. It would thus be wrong to judge and discriminate people. Transgender are deserving of is the Right to Equality under Article 14. Article 15 declares about the prohibition of discrimination on the ground of religion,

					<p>caste, sex or place of birth.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Article 21, ensures right to privacy and personal dignity to all the citizens and article 21 (A) ensures education is a fundamental right to every Indian. The constitution provides for the fundamental rights to the equality and tolerates no discrimination on the grounds of sex, caste, creed or religion. The nature of the harassment includes verbal, physical and sexual abuse which has serious impact on the mental health as well. In a democratic country like India Transgender has no access to the social and political rights.
08	Dr. A. Balu	CONFRONT ISSUES ON EDUCATION OF TRANSGENDERS IN INDIA	-	Tamil Nadu	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Transgender people faced discrimination and harassment by family at home, school and community forces them to move to the other places. The nature of the harassment includes verbal, physical and sexual abuse which has serious impact on the mental health as well. They are not the part of any welfare scheme. The Indian Constitution is to provide equal opportunity to every citizen to grow and attain their potential, irrespective of caste, religion or gender. Transgenders were respected earlier in the society but situation has changed and they now face discrimination and harassment.
09	M. Gnana Kamalia, Dr.J.Antony Rajamb, Dr.K.C.Bindh, Dr.J.Maria Premad	Educational Challenges Of Transgender	Secondary data	India	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Transgender people are becoming increasingly visible at secondary and post-secondary schools across the country. There is a need of wider space within the institutions for all the human beings without any kind of discrimination. All the institutions are the pillars of any society and they have responsibility to give equal opportunities to learn to all genders including transgender.
10	Pallav Das	Higher Education of Transgenders in India: Opportunities and Challenges	-	-	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Article 14 and 15 Indian Constitution is to provide equal opportunity to every citizen to grow and attain their potential, irrespective of caste, religion or gender. Transgenders are eligible for twenty five percent reservation under the economically weaker section disadvantaged students category for admission in schools, colleges and universities. The Transgenders community faces several challenges and discrimination and therefore has fewer opportunities as compared to others. They are hardly educated as they are nor accepted by the society and therefore do not

					<p>receive proper schooling. Even if they are admitted to an educational institute, they face harassment and are bullied every day and are asked to leave the school and colleges or they drop out on their own.</p> <p>5. Sensitisation will not help until people are ready to accept change and acceptance can come only through education.</p>
11	Yashik and Sarita	A Light on the Socio-Economic Status of the Transgenders	-	India	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The separate gender identity given to transgender community by the court and government. 2. Transgender have protected the girls from trafficking still we are not ready to protect them by giving them equal rights and a life full of dignity. 3. Transgender serving to nation in reaction nation too must serve them by recognizing their rights as well as identity.
12	Judith Bradford, Sari L. Reisner, Julie A. Honnold, and Jessica Xavier	Experiences of Transgender-Related Discrimination and Implications for Health: Results From the Virginia Transgender Health Initiative Study	-	-	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 41% reported experiences of transgender-related discrimination. 2. transgender people experience widespread discrimination in health care, employment, and housing. 3. one third (31%) reported having families who were not at all or not very supportive of their transgender status, gender expression, or both. 4. More than one third (37%) reported negative experiences in high school, including experiencing hostility from peers, teachers, or school administrators. 5. Participants reported high rates of adolescent and adult experience of violence (27%) and forced or unwanted sex since age 13 years. 6. 8% self-reported being HIV positive, 64% 7. Reporting ever having used tobacco, drinking problem (alcohol) was reported by 23%; 6% reported a lifetime history of injection drug use.
13	Dr. Geetali Tilak, Dheeraj Singh	A STUDY OF REPRESENTATION OF TRANSGENDER COMMUNITY IN MEDIA INDUSTRY	survey based	-	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Media won't offer more responsible and honest portrayals of transgender characters till the audience demands it of them. 2. The advertisements brought out a very positive image of the transgender community. Print media in the past, depicted the transgender community in a negative image. 3. 50% of the respondents did not know about the transgender rights issued by the Indian Government. 4. They wanted more of transgender representation in media. But the respondents were not sure if the portrayal of the audience is opening up to see new changes in the society.

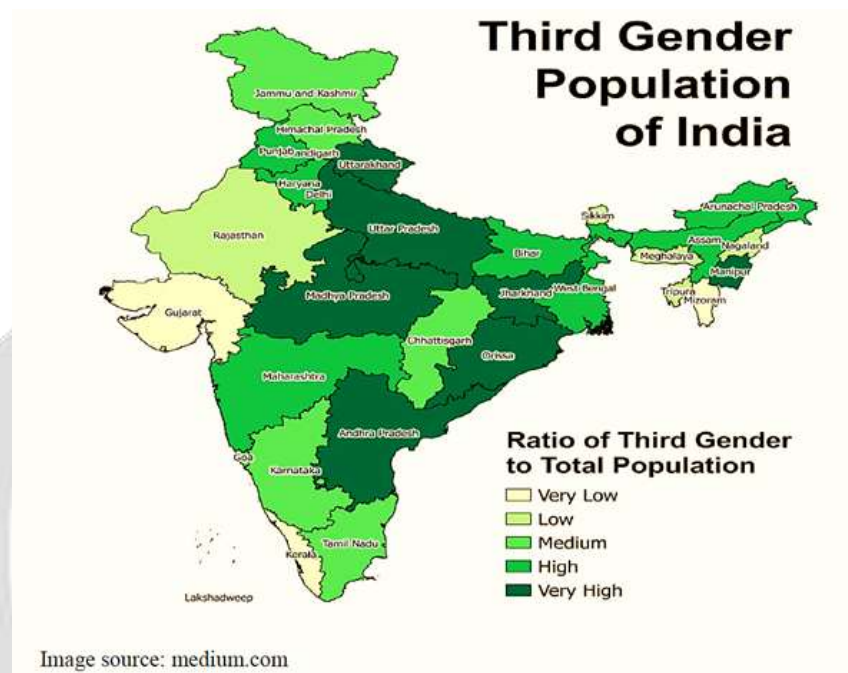


Table: Category wise Population of Transgender with literacy

Sr. No.	State	Transgender	Child(0-6)	SC	ST	Literacy
-	India	487,803	54,854	78,811	33,293	56.07%
1	Uttar Pradesh	137,465	18,734	26,404	639	55.80%
3	Maharashtra	40,891	4,101	4,691	3,529	67.57%
4	Bihar	40,827	5,971	6,295	506	44.35%
5	West Bengal	30,349	2,376	6,474	1,474	58.83%
7	Tamil Nadu	22,364	1,289	4,203	180	57.78%
10	Rajasthan	16,517	2,012	2,961	1,805	48.34%
18	Delhi	4,213	311	490	0	62.99%
19	Jammu and Kashmir	4,137	487	207	385	49.29%
20	Kerala	3,902	295	337	51	84.61%
25	Arunachal Pradesh	495	64	0	311	52.20%
28	Puducherry	252	16	40	0	60.59%
29	Mizoram	166	26	1	146	87.14%
35	Lakshadweep	2	0	0	2	50.00%

CONCLUSION:

All human have ethical and legal right to treated as human. According to Supreme Court of India transgender are also consider as gender. So they must be treated as human being. So, legally and logically all human rights must be applicable to all people of transgender. According to constitution of India, all people have the right to live with dignity in the society irrespective with their gender. But transgender not only discriminated by the people of society also they discriminated and suppressed by the government employee. Many times transgender faces very inhuman treatment not only in private places but also in public places such as hospitals, schools and colleges, theaters, bus and trains, social ceremonies or in many public places. Public word itself shows its public then why some genders are discriminated in public places that are the question. This was not answered by the society from billions of the years. The society needs to take care of social stigma towards the transgender community and give a chance to stand equally and participate together in the developmental process of the community.

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